

King Press

***We Are
Building
“Character”,
Families &
Communities”
In 2011***



The 2011 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration

On Monday, January 17th of this year, we celebrated the name and the legacy of one of the most influential men of all times. King Advisory, Inc., Friends of King Community Center, the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center and the Milwaukee Parks held the 2011 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration. This year, the program was titled, *"The Rites of Passage: From Boys to Men."* The atmosphere around the center was electric. People throughout Milwaukee County came out to celebrate and enjoy a powerful program.

This year's celebration began with a dynamic speech from Dr. King, by Amir Ali. Mr. Ali is a partner at the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center through his company **For My People's Productions**. Following that powerful message you could feel the energy flowing through the entire facility. The auditorium was standing room only, with an overflow in the gymnasium and a live audio/video feed from upstairs.

Leading the program were two women who have dedicated themselves and much of their time to the growth of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center. ReDonna Rogers and Elizabeth Coggs served as "Mistresses of Ceremonies" and created the family environment through their passion and elegance while on stage. ReDonna Rogers, CEO of Teaching for Entrepreneurship, serves on the Friends of King Community Center Board and volunteers many hours with planning, organizing, and participating in many events here at the King Center. Elizabeth Coggs, 10th District State Legislature is the founder of the King Advisory Board, Inc. King Advisory, Inc. holds it's annual Back to School festival in King Park each year. Watching their energy on stage made you feel like they were hosting the Academy Awards.

The program was full of performers from the center and community who showcased their talents and what the center has to offer. TaWau Saleem of Saleem Karate-Do demonstrated our karate program with high-flying punches and kicks from our center youth. Then the young and amazing Fred Thorton-Baker danced to the Michael Jackson classic *"Man in the Mirror."* Muhibb Dyer performed an original poem titled, *"Now is the Time."* The King Center's very own, Lamont Johnson, hit the stage tapping away with his awesome display of tap dance and swag on stage.

County Executive Lee Holloway, County Board Chairman Michael Mayo, Supervisors Peggy West and Johnny Thomas along with Milwaukee County Parks Director Sue Black welcomed the guest with words of encouragement. Pastor Guy Taylor spoke on a message of love and the program ended with words from the center manager Dee McCollum.

After the program, guests were treated to a delicious meal prepared by Maxine of **Maxine Maximum Delights**.

The King Team promises an amazing and dynamic year for 2011. There are many programs to come and several growth opportunities at the center with more powerful partnerships.



Representative Coggs & Kaylynn Blackwell, President of King Advisory, Inc. presents, Pastor Guy Taylor with an award.



"Without A Word with a powerful performance!"



Lamont Johnson with a beautiful tap performance



High Flyers Tumbling Team



Maxine of **Maxine Maximum Delights** prepared the meal



A full house!!



Kenny Murray, singing "You Are Holy"



Muhibb Dyer performed an original piece, "Now is the Time"



10th District State Representative Elizabeth Coggs & Milwaukee County 10th District Legislative Assistant Daniela Matthews



Fred Thorton-Baker danced to "man In The Mirror"



Redonna Rodgers, CEO of Center for Entrepreneurship, introduces center manager Dee McCollum



Tim Holloway, Nancy Hahn and King Team member Rita Echols



Signing up for the day's special ½ price memberships!



Saleem's Karate-Do students showing their talent



King Team men. (left to right) Lamont Johnson, Ray Matthews, Supervisor, William Maxwell, Greg McBeath, Alvin Boyd, TaWau Saleem & Tommy Sundebird



King Team ladies. (left to right) Dee McCollum, Dominic Connors, Donna Wells-Brown, & Rita Echols



Friends of King Community Center Board (left to right) 1st row: LaQuista Jackson, Nancy Hahn, Dee McCollum, Dana Jackson, ReDonna Rodgers, Marilyn Miller 2nd row: Joe Woodland, Tracey Dent, Carlos Tyler, Andre Lee Ellis



Joe Jordan shared his beautiful vocals singing *"Someday We'll All Be Free"*



Teen standup Comedian, Joel Boyd



A full auditorium!!